

**Advisory Committee on Adult Education and Literacy
to the
Virginia Board of Education**

**Crowne Plaza Hotel
555 E. Canal Street
Richmond, VA 23219**

**Minutes
Tuesday, March 25, 2003
10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

Members Present

Audrey B. Davidson, Co-chair
Mark E. Emblidge, Co-chair
The Honorable Emmett Hanger
The Honorable Kenneth Plum

Susan Erno
Steve F. Clementi
Dr. Yvonne V. Thayer, Ex-Officio

Members Absent:

Dr. Yvonne Brandon
Scott Leath

Dr. Carlisle Ramsey

Other Persons in Attendance:

Dr. Troilen Seward
Rebecca Scott
Barbara Gibson

Elizabeth Hawa
Robert MacGillivray
Gloria J. Murphy

Welcome and Introduction of Guests

Audrey Davidson
Mark Emblidge

Rebecca Scott, nominee for appointment to the Advisory Committee, was present and introduced to the committee.

Approval of Minutes

Upon motion made and seconded, the minutes from the Thursday, August 22, 2002 meeting were approved.

Appointments to Advisory Committee

Members being recommended to the Board of Education for appointment to the Advisory Committee on Adult Education on Wednesday, March 26, 2003, are as follow:

Carolyn Baker
Coordinator, Federal Programs & Early
Learning Center
Charlotte County Schools
P. O. Box 508
Charlotte Court House, VA 23923

Rebecca Scott
Regional Adult Education Program
Wise County Schools
148 Legion Street
Weber City, VA 24290

Marilyn Milio
The READ Center
1605 Monument Avenue
Richmond, VA 23220

Dr. David Red
Adult ESOL Coordinator
Fairfax County Public Schools
7731 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22043

Mrs. Davidson stated that the committee should send a letter to Mrs. Mary Peacock thanking her for her contribution to the Advisory Committee. The group was in agreement with this.

Review of 2003 Session of the General Assembly

Senate Bill 804

Virginia Advisory Council for Adult Education and Literacy. This legislation abolishes the Virginia Advisory Council for Adult Education and Literacy. The Council recommends an integrated and coordinated multiagency approach for the delivery of quality adult education and literacy programs, services, and philosophies. The executive director position to the Council has been eliminated as a state position and the Council has met infrequently in recent years. The Board of Education has established the Advisory Committee on Adult Education and Literacy, which can fulfill the mission of the Council and have a greater local impact.

Dr. Thayer will contact the Secretary of Education regarding communication being sent to the Council members.

House Bill 1464

General achievement diploma. This legislation directs the Board of Education, by September 1, 2003, to develop, by regulation, requirements for the award of the general achievement diploma to students (i) passing the GED examination; (ii) successfully completing an education and training program designated by the Board; and (iii) satisfying other requirements the Board may establish. A second enactment authorizes emergency regulations.

The advisory committee agreed that recommendations be submitted to the Board of Education regarding implementation of this bill.

House Bill 2075

Virginia Workforce Council; membership; powers and duties. This legislation reduces the membership of the Virginia Workforce Council from 43 to 29, and expands the duties of the Council in its implementation of the Workforce Investment Act ("WIA"). The Council is required to create procedures, guidelines, performance measures, and directives applicable to local workforce investment boards and the operation of one-stop centers required by the WIA. The bill also requires each local workforce investment board to develop and submit to the Council an annual workforce demand plan for its area based on a survey of local and regional businesses that reflects local employer needs and the availability of trained workers to meet those needs. Finally, the bill lists all programs that shall be mandatory partners in the one-stop centers under the WIA. Mandatory partners include Adult Education and Family Literacy programs.

Some of the concerns related to the WIA were as follows:

- Adult Education is not receiving adequate WIA funding.
- Adult Education does not have a representative on the Workforce Investment Board under WIA.

Report on Performance in Adult Basic Education, Adult Secondary, and English Literacy Programs

Dr. Thayer

A slide presentation entitled "Performance Targets and Results for the National Reporting System 2001-02" was given by Dr. Thayer. Virginia is doing well in meeting and exceeding the target goals for performance.

Lunch Break

Report on Family Literacy in Virginia

Dr. Thayer

- Even Start is now located in the Office of Adult Education and Literacy.
- Even Start is in the process of revising standards for performance.
- New Even Start programs will apply for funding in April.
- Adult Education is still funding family literacy programs through the Department of Housing and Community Development.
- Adult Education has given funds to the PASS initiative and programs are being offered in Richmond and Portsmouth.
- The Virginia Literacy Foundation received some funds through PASS. Barbara Gibson made some comments regarding services being provided to four Richmond schools and three schools in Petersburg. She stated that the Virginia Literacy Foundation is designing training for parents and teachers.

A "thank you" was extended to Verizon and the Literacy Foundation for their support.

Next Directions for Adult Education in Virginia

1. Standards Development - Virginia needs to develop content standards for ABE, adult secondary, and ESOL education.
 - All teachers statewide would need to be trained because at the present time everybody does not use the same teaching standards. Standards relate to skills, which relate to content.
 - Funding is a concern.
2. Distance Learning
 - Continuous, life-long learning must be defined.
 - Funding from the Tobacco Commission should be pursued.
 - The Advisory Committee should work with other states to incorporate more ideas.
 - Communication with the community should be a priority.
3. Integrating Adult Education into K-12
 - The Advisory Committee must keep the Board of Education up-to-date on developments in adult education.

Next meeting dates:

May 12, 2003 and May 27, 2003. These meetings will be designed to prepare board agenda items for presentation to the Board of Education in June 2003.

Adjournment – 3:00 p.m.